윤미경

Mi-Kyung Yun

6

BRIDE of the WATER GOD

6

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"SOO JO GA DOO"
–BY SO DONG-PA

SINCE WHEN HAS THE MOON
SHONE SO BRIGHT?
HOLDING UP A WINE GLASS
AND ASKING GOD,
WITHIN THE PALACE OF
THE HEAVENS,
WHICH YEAR DOES
TONIGHT BELONG TO?
I WISH TO RETURN BY
RIDING THE WIND,
BUT I'M AFRAID OF THE PALACE
AND THE PARADISE,
AND I'M WORRIED THAT
SUCH A LOFTY PLACE
MIGHT CARRY WITH IT
AN UNFORGIVING CHILL.

Bride of the Water God

story and art by

Mi-Kyung Yun

translation

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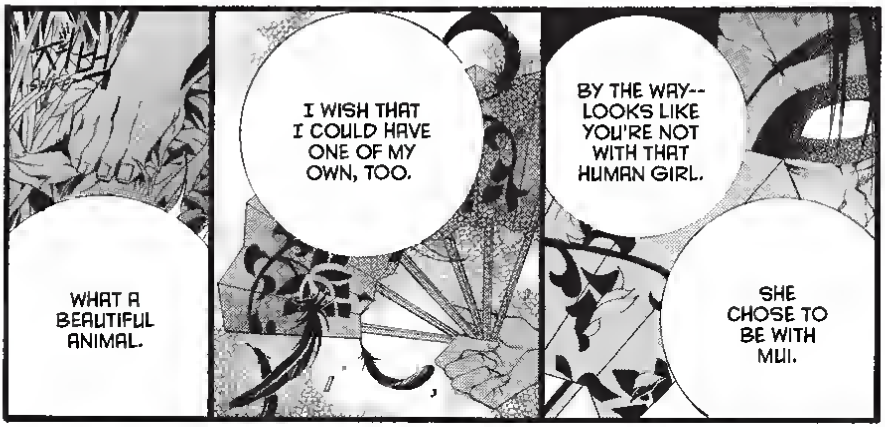
STANDING UP, DANCING AND PLAYING
WITHIN THE SHADOWS SO PURE.
HOW COULD A PLACE AS BEAUTIFUL AS THIS
EXIST IN THE HUMAN WORLD?
I WALKED AROUND THE RED CASTLE AND
ARRIVED AT THE SILKEN DOOR;
I CANNOT SLUMBER THIS EVENING BECAUSE
THE MOON SHINES SO BRIGHTLY.
IF THE MOON DOESN'T HOLD ANY GRUDGES
NOR HARD FEELINGS TOWARD ME,
HOW COME THE MOON IS FULL AND SHINES SO BRIGHT,
WHENEVER MY HEART BREAKS UPON
PARTING WITH MY LOVER?
THIS IS THE HAPPINESS OF MEETING,
AND THE SORROW OF HAVING TO PART--
THIS IS UNCHANGING AMONG HUMAN BEINGS,
AND IT HAS ALWAYS BEEN SUCH.
THE MOON IS BRIGHT, THEN DARK,
AND IT WAXES JUST AS IT WANES.
THESE REMAIN CONSTANT AND UNCHANGING,
FROM TIMES OF YORE.

THE ONLY HOPE I HAVE IS THAT EVEN ALONE,
YOU LIVE A HAPPY, FULL LIFE.
EVEN IF YOU'RE THOUSANDS OF
LEAGUES FROM ME,
I HOPE THAT YOU'LL BE WALKING IN
HAPPINESS--ETERNAL LIKE
THE MOON.

THANK YOU FOR TAKING ME HERE, LYNN.
THANK YOU.
WHHHSSHHH
YOU CAN GO NOW.
WSHAAAA
VVNNNNN

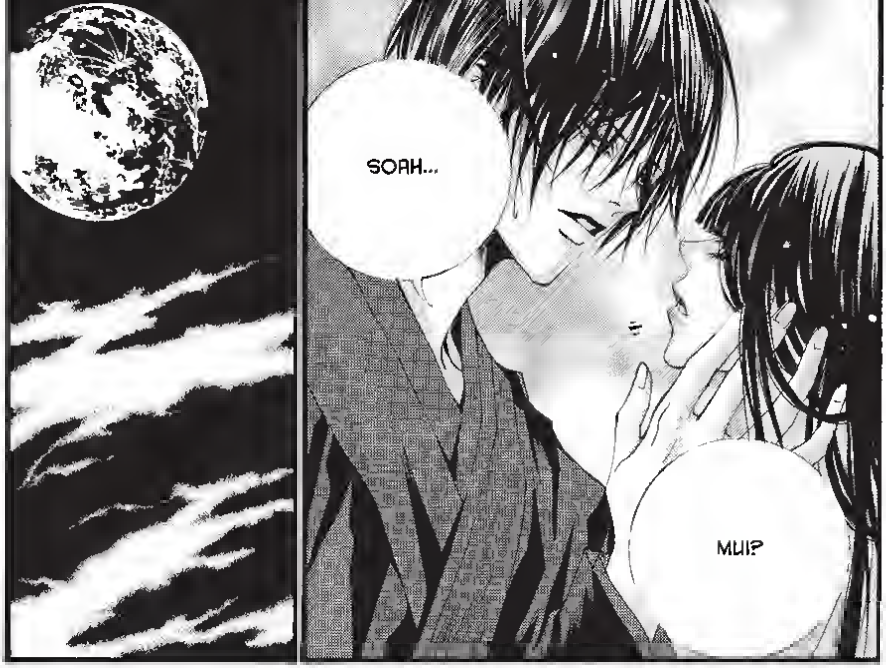

WHAT A BEAUTIFUL ANIMAL.
I WISH THAT I COULD HAVE ONE OF MY OWN, TOO.
BY THE WAY-- LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE NOT WITH THAT HUMAN GIRL.
SHE CHOSE TO BE WITH MUI.

IS THIS HOW YOU'RE BACKING OUT OF THINGS THIS TIME?
THAT'S NOT LIKE YOU, YOUR MAJESTY.

WELL, I THINK THAT EVEN *STRANGER* THINGS THAN THOSE WE WITNESSED TODAY WILL OCCUR SOON.
THERE ISN'T MUCH TIME LEFT IN THE NIGHT.
THE SUN WILL RISE IN JUST A FEW HOURS.
CHWAAAA
IN THE CONDITION HE'S IN, MUI WON'T MAKE IT TO *SUGUK* IN TIME. WHAT WILL HE DO? POOR, POOR MUI...

SOAH.
COME.
I ENDED UP HOLDING HIS HAND.

NEITHER HUYE'S HAND... NOR HABAEK'S... BUT THIS MAN'S.
EVEN THOUGH HE ALWAYS UPSETS ME AND NEVER HAS A KIND WORD TO SAY TO ME...
I MIGHT REALLY REGRET THIS, LIKE HUYE SAID.
BUT...
...THIS IS MY VERY FIRST DECISION, MADE BY MYSELF, WITHOUT ANY MEDDLING FROM ANYONE.


SOAH...
MUI?

WAIT A MINUTE... NO... WAIT.

W-WAIT, MUI!
I'M NOT READY YET...

털썩
THMMP
!!
MUI?!
WHAT'S WRONG? MUI! WAKE UP!
I BELIEVE THAT YOU WILL KEEP YOUR PROMISE.

WELL, I SUPPOSE WE SHOULD JUST PUT THIS DAY TO REST.
I ASSUME THAT YOU'RE EXTREMELY WORRIED ABOUT HER BY NOW...? GO AHEAD AND SEE HER. I'LL LET YOU GO.
DID...DID HE ATTACK ME THEN?
WAKE UP, MUI!
MUI?!
MUI?!
DAMN IT... THAT GOD... DAMN...
SINCE THAT MOMENT, I HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO MOVE FREELY...
...OR DO THAT WHICH I DESIRE.

쿠르릉
KOOM KAKOOOM
쏴
FSHAAA
FSHAAAAAAAA
아아아

MUI...
HE APPEARS TO BE IN PAIN.
싸아
FSHAAA
SHOULD I WAIT UNTIL THE MORNING COMES?
WHAT SHOULD I DO? I CAN'T MOVE HIS BODY.
I CAN'T EVEN REACH ANYONE FOR HELP.

WAS IT BECAUSE OF THE MOONLIGHT?
MUI'S FACE LOOKED SO SAD JUST MOMENTS AGO.
쿠르르릉
KRAKOOOM
번쩍
KZZZAAKK
?!
FWSH
ARE YOU WAITING FOR MUI?
HE PROBABLY WON'T BE BACK TONIGHT.

WHY ARE YOU DOING THIS?
WHY DO YOU HANG AROUND HABAEK?
YOU CAN'T BE NAKBIN.
큭
HA HA!
HABAEK ALSO KNOWS THAT YOU'RE NOT REAL. HE JUST CAN'T SPEAK HIS TRUE FEELINGS IN FRONT OF "NAKBIN'S" FACE.
IF I LET THINGS CONTINUE, HE WILL BE CAUGHT UP WITH YOU, JUST LIKE BEFORE.
SO I'M NOT GOING TO LET THAT HAPPEN. WHAT DO YOU HAVE IN MIND?
I'LL TELL YOU, IF YOU WANT TO KNOW. IT WON'T BE *FUNNY,* THOUGH...

FSHAAAAA
WHAT?
YOU'RE CRAZY! INSANE!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING THIS FOR? HOW DO YOU THINK--
I THOUGHT THAT YOU AND I WERE SOMEWHAT THE SAME. WAS I WRONG?
MOTHS FLY INTO FIRE, EVEN THOUGH THEY KNOW THEY'RE GOING TO DIE.
HABAEK IS MY FIRE.
THINK OF THIS AS KIND OF... *ANOTHER* WAY TO LOVE.
IF YOU CHANGE YOUR MIND, YOU CAN COME TO ME ANYTIME.

WOW!
YOU ARE REALLY PATHETIC.
OH, WELL... I GUESS THAT I'M NOT IN A POSITION TO SAY THAT, AM I?
WHAT WE DID WAS CARE...AND FEEL...WHY DOES TRAGEDY COME TO US?
BUT...
...THIS EXTREME FEELING...IS THIS REALLY LOVE...?

THERE AREN'T
ALWAYS ENDINGS THAT
LEAVE EVERYONE HAPPY.

SHI-JA DESCRIBES HABAEK AS A TALL, HANDSOME GUY, WITH A WHITE FACE AND A KEEN EYE, SENSITIVE TO BEAUTY.

IT IS SAID THAT HIS BOTTOM HALF IS THAT OF A FISH, LIKE THOSE OF MERFOLK, WHEN HE APPEARS AT THE NORTH SHORE... AND THIS IS HIS *TRUE* FORM.
LIKE PEOPLE SAY...NO PERSON CAN REMAIN TRUE, KIND, AND PURE FOR MORE THAN ONE THOUSAND DAYS. JUST AS NO FLOWER CAN REMAIN RED MORE THAN A HUNDRED DAYS. THE WATER GOD'S MIND CHANGES OFTEN, AND AS SUCH, THE PEOPLE OF THE EARTH TRIED TO SLAKE HIS FLIGHTY WAYS BY SENDING OFFERINGS.

SOAH...
I'LL PROTECT YOU-- NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS.
WILL YOU MARRY ME?

WELL, WELL, WELL! IS THAT SOMETHING YOU THINK YOU CAN REALLY DO? PROTECT HER-- NO MATTER WHAT?
!!
MUI, YOU COULDN'T EVEN PROTECT *NAKBIN.*
?!
WON'T IT BE ESPECIALLY HARD, GIVEN THE CONDITION YOU'RE IN?

두근
THA-THUMP
HRRK!!
하아
HFF!
하아
HFF!

두근-
THA-THUMP
두근-
두근-
THA-THUMP
THA-THUMP
두근

WSH

움찔
FLINCH
NN.. HNN.

.....

I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT... HE IS RIGHT.
I CAN'T PROTECT HER IN THIS CONDITION. NOT AT ALL.
I CAN'T EVEN PROTECT MYSELF.
SHFF

I CAN'T USE MY POWERS DURING THE DAYTIME, AND NOW OUR MONARCH HAS POISONED ME...
...AND I CAN'T LET SOAH SEE ME IN THIS INSIPID FORM!

벌
JOLT
?!

MUI?
THESE ARE MUI'S CLOTHES...
WHERE DID HE GO?!
HE SEEMED TO BE IN SUCH SEVERE PAIN... PERHAPS HE GOT UP IN THE NIGHT...?
HE'S GONE NOW-- DOES THAT MEAN THAT HE WAS WELL ENOUGH TO MOVE AND GET HELP?
OR MAYBE...
...HE JUST DECIDED TO LEAVE ME... ALONE.

MUI...
TURN
WOOSH
MUI?!
TOK
.....

아아아
HWOOO
I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS. DID HE REALLY LEAVE ME BEHIND... ALL ALONE?
DON'T WORRY.
JUST BE YOURSELF.

LOOK AT ME! HERE I AM, THINKING OF HABAEK, EVEN AT A TIME LIKE THIS. I'M THE ONE WHO CHOSE MUI, INSTEAD OF HABAEK.
BUT... I CAN'T JUST ASSUME THAT HE LEFT ME BEHIND LIKE THIS. HE CLEARLY SAID, "LET'S GO."
PLUS, HE LEFT HIS CLOTHES HERE...
.....
HIS CLOTHES...
WAIT. HE LEFT HIS CLOTHES HERE. THAT MEANS--
!!
SHKFF

?
MUI...?

까악
KA KAA
까악
KAA
!!
HRGGRRR...
바스락
SKFF
IT'S NOT MUI!!
KYAAA!

SHK
THMP
RRR
OOR
WWWLL
MUI--
HELP
ME!
!!
KRUNCH
바스락
GRRRAARR!
VWEEH
ZZWOOOSH
THAT'S
ENOUGH!
GET
BACK!

헉
THAP!
THAP
샤아아
SWISHAAA...
I THOUGHT IT WAS MUI FOR ONE SECOND.

UMM... THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP.

YOUR WORDS ALONE SHALL NOT SUFFICE AS THANKS.
THEN... I'LL DO WHATEVER I CAN TO REPAY YOU FOR--

!!
HWIK
REALLY--
WHATEVER
I'D LIKE?

LOOK AT THIS. SOME KID IS LYING DOWN HERE.
GREAT! LET'S TAKE HIM TO THE MASTER
WHO THE--?
OUR MASTER WILL LOVE THIS.
MASTER ...?
RIGHT...I REMEMBER HEARING THAT THERE WAS A MASTER OF THE WEST FOREST.
WHAT WAS THE NAME... I CAN'T REMEMBER...
I HAVE TO HURRY AND GET BACK.

THAT SILLY GIRL. WAS SHE REALLY UNABLE TO WAIT FOR ME-- AND JUST LEFT?
W-WAIT! SORRY IF I CONFUSED YOU, BUT--
--THAT WAS NOT WHAT I MEANT!
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT NOW? YOU WERE THE ONE WHO SAID YOU WOULD DO ANYTHING!
WHERE ARE YOU?
MUI!! HELP ME!!

FROM NOW ON, YOU ARE MY SLAVE.
WHAT...?
SLAVE... THEN... THAT IS...
HEY-- WHAT DID YOU EXPECT?
.....
WHAT DO I DO NOW?

I HAVE TO DO SOMETHING TO GET OUT OF THIS.
MUI...
HYUUUUU
...WHERE ARE YOU?

THE MASTER'S BACK!
LET'S GO SHOW HIM WHAT WE BROUGHT HOME!
처벅 처벅
TOKK TOKK
KANNG 털컥.

EH?
HMM?

WHAT IS THIS? THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE HERE, INSTEAD OF WHAT WE BROUGHT!
AND IT'S HUGE!
WHAT ARE THESE BOYS DOING?
WE BROUGHT IN A SMALL ONE. WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
WHAT THE HECK IS THIS PLACE?

RIGHT... SOAH... WHERE IS SHE NOW?

째릿
GLARE

THE NIGHT CAME BACK ALREADY?
THIS ISN'T GOOD.
I SHOULD GET BACK TO SOAH, BEFORE THE SUN RISES AGAIN.
THIS PLACE IS--
SOAH!!

HMM... SO TO MAKE A LONG STORY SHORT, HE LEFT YOU BEHIND.
THAT...THAT'S NOT TRUE. IT CAN'T BE TRUE THAT HE JUST LEFT ME BEHIND.
IF THAT'S NOT TRUE, WHY DIDN'T HE SAY ANYTHING TO YOU BEFORE HE LEFT?
THAT'S BECAUSE-- WELL, THERE MUST HAVE BEEN A REASON.
I DON'T THINK THAT HE WILL COME BACK, NO MATTER HOW LONG YOU WAIT.

YOU CAN GO BACK HOME. I'LL LET YOU GO, IF YOU WANT.
WHERE IS YOUR HOME, BY THE WAY?
THE HUMAN WORLD? OR... SUGUK?
HOME... MY HOME IS...
BUT... IT CAN'T BE MY HOME, BECAUSE I JUST EAT AND SLEEP THERE.
WHERE IS MY HOME?
MUI...

SOAH!!
MUI?!
?!
B.T.A.M.M.M
SOAH-- ARE YOU THERE?
MUI!
?!

I THOUGHT IT WAS *YOU* WHO LEFT HER BEHIND... AND YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO YELL AT ME!
VWEEEEN
GRAB
WHO ARE YOU?! WHY DID YOU KIDNAP SOAH?!
MUI-- WAIT! HE'S NOT A BAD PERSON! PLEASE STOP-- BOTH OF YOU!
NO!!
ZZUUUEEEE

.....
멈칫
FREEZE
.....
DAMN.
스윽
HUSH
WHAT'S GOING ON? THIS MAKES ME LOOK LIKE THE BAD GUY.

I AM THE MASTER OF THIS FOREST...
...AND YOU ARE THE ONES WHO BROKE INTO MY FOREST WITHOUT PERMISSION.
휘이이이
HWWOOOOO
AH... NOW I REMEMBER...
...THE MASTER OF THE WESTERN FOREST!

BANG-CHEON-GOON...OR "BIRYEOM"...
HWWOOO
...THE GOD OF THE WIND.
WOW. THE BIG WATER GOD KNOWS MY NAME... IT LOOKS LIKE I'M QUITE FAMOUS.
HEH HEH!
PEOPLE CALL YOU THE POOR BASTARD WHO WENT AGAINST OUR LIEGE AND GOT KICKED OUT.
.....

DID YOU GET THAT SCAR FROM THE MONARCH?
.....
WELL, YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL, IF YOU WANT TO BE HAPPY.
.....
HWWOOOO
GRRROOWWLL

MY FRIEND HERE WILL TAKE YOU TO SUGUK.
I'LL REPAY YOUR KINDNESS LATER.
LET'S GO BACK, SOAH.
HMPF! YOU'D BETTER. I'LL VISIT YOU SOON TO COLLECT ON THAT-- SO YOU BETTER BE READY.
FWOOSHH!!!
SEE YOU LATER, THEN...
BACK HOME...

GOING BACK...
SHWWOOOOOO
...TO OUR HOME...
THIS WIND IS...
...CAUSED BY BIRYEOM.
HE MADE THE WIND BLOW AT OUR BACKS, SPEEDING US ON OUR WAY TO SUGUK.
I TOLD YOU--HE'S NOT A BAD PERSON.

BY THE WAY, YOU NEED TO LEARN TO BUILD MORE BOUNDARIES AGAINST STRANGERS! THAT JERK ALMOST HAD YOU--BECAUSE YOU'RE TOO NAIVE! YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST STAYED WHERE YOU WERE AND WAITED--INSTEAD OF RUNNING AROUND AND CAUSING TROUBLE!!
WHAT?!
SOAH--YOU WERE THE ONE WHO DISAPPEARED IN AN INSTANT!
AND YOU WENT LOOKING FOR ME?! YOU SHOULD HAVE JUST WAITED!!
I COULDN'T... JUST WAIT...
...YOU WERE HURT...YOU DISAPPEARED...
PLEASE... DON'T TRY TO SOLVE THIS PROBLEM ALL BY YOURSELF, MUI. I'M BEGGING YOU...

I'M SORRY...
WAIT... I COULDN'T HEAR YOU. WILL YOU PLEASE SAY THAT AGAIN?
NO!

KOOM
KRAKOOM
I BROUGHT A LETTER FROM OUR MONARCH.
KRAKOOM
THIS IS--!!
KKRAZZTT

KOOM
KIRAKOOM
.....
KAKOOM
WHAT *UNPLEASANT* WEATHER! IT'S RARE TO HAVE THIS KINDA AWFUL WEATHER IN SUGUK.

SORA!
AH! YOHEE.

I HEARD THAT YOU CAME BACK WITH MUI.

I THOUGHT SOMETHING WAS GOING TO HAPPEN WHEN MUI GOT UPSET AND LEFT. WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH I'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT YOU?

SORRY TO MAKE YOU WORRY, YOHEE.
WELL, ANYWAY... WELCOME BACK, SORA!

HABAEK'S OTHER BRIDE IS HERE, BUT I DON'T WANT TO SEE THAT LADY AT ALL.
SOMEHOW... SHE MAKES ME FEEL *SICK!*

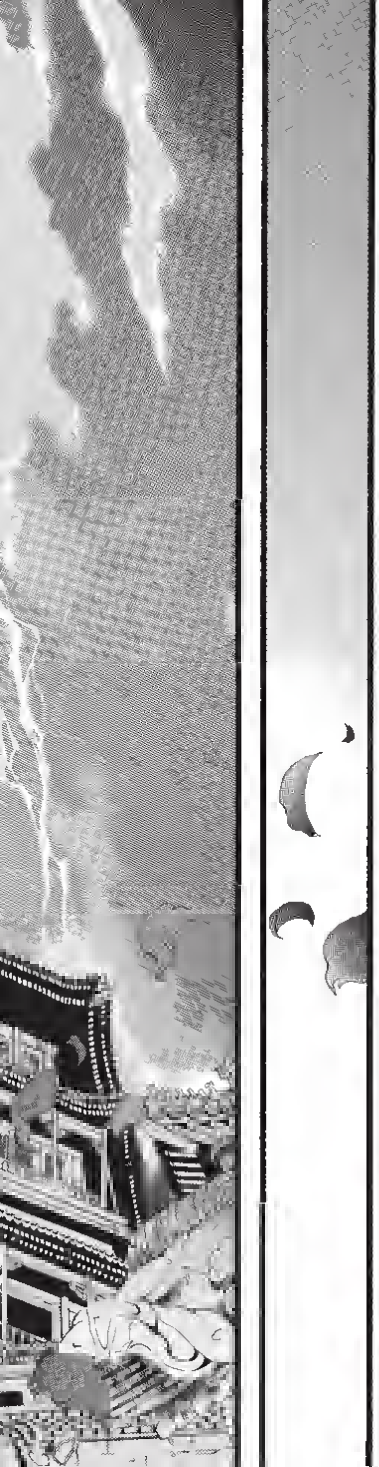
THIS IS...
BAN-WANG BROUGHT THIS TO ME AND SAID THAT IT'S A LETTER FROM THE MONARCH.
ABOUT THE LETTER... IS EVERYTHING *FINE*, MUI-NIM?
IT'S OKAY. DON'T WORRY, YUK-OH. WHAT ELSE?
WELL, ACTUALLY...

...SOMEONE CALLED *BIRYEOM-NIM* VISITED, EARLIER THAN MUI-NIM ARRIVED, AND HAS BEEN WAITING.
!!

HE SAID THAT HE'S MUI-NIM'S *SAVIOR*...
HEY, THERE--♡

WHY ARE *YOU* HERE?!
WHY?! I JUST CAME HERE TO HAVE YOU REPAY MY KINDNESS LIKE YOU SAID EARLIER.
KAKOOM
WHAT?! UHH, BY THE WAY, EXPLAIN TO US HOW YOU COULD HAVE ARRIVED HERE *EARLIER* THAN WE DID.
WELL, OF COURSE! THAT'S BECAUSE *MY* GODLY DRAKE IS WAY *FASTER* THAN THE ONE YOU TWO RODE.
YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY I DIDN'T GIVE YOU MY FASTEST ONE? *COME ON.* YOU SHOULD BE THANKFUL THAT I LENT YOU THAT ONE IN THE FIRST PLACE.
ANYWAY, I'LL GIVE YOU A CHANCE TO REPAY MY KINDNESS BY LETTING ME STAY HERE FOR A WHILE.

I NEEDN'T REPAY ANY OF YOUR KINDNESS-- SO LEAVE!! NOW!!
!!
HMPF! WHAT I KNOW IS THAT THE WATER GOD WAS *CURSED* BY OUR MONARCH. IS THIS WHAT YOU *REALLY* LOOK LIKE...?
AH, AND THE LADY! SHE MUST KNOW ABOUT THIS? ABOUT YOUR SECRET...?
!!



AN INVITE FOR HABAEK, THE WATER GOD, TO THE PALACE OF OUR SOVEREIGN...

IT SAYS SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

DO YOU HAVE TO GO? THIS SOUNDS REALLY SUSPICIOUS. WHAT IF IT'S A TRAP?

BUT IF I DISOBEYED AN ORDER FROM THE MONARCH, IT'D BE HIGH TREASON. I GUESS THERE'S NOTHING TO DO.

WHAT ELSE DOES IT SAY?

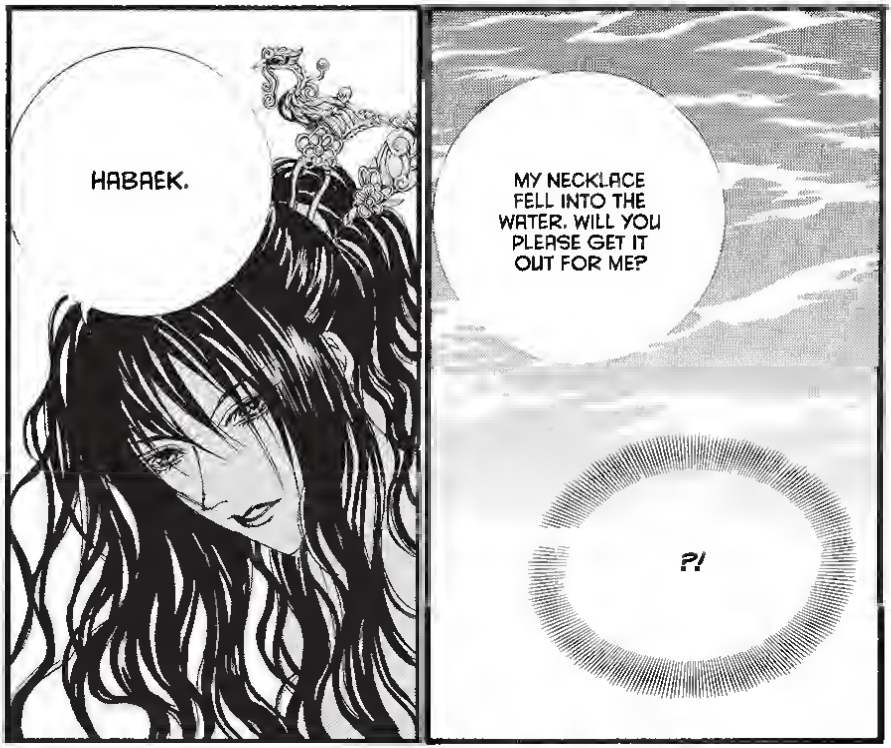
AND IT ADDS...

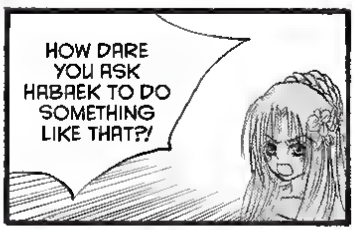
...YOU MUST COME WITH THE BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD.

IF IT DOESN'T SAY WHICH BRIDE...
...ARE YOU EXPECTED TO *CHOOSE?* FROM ONE OF THE TWO...?
WHO IS THE REAL BRIDE OF THE WATER GOD?

쵸아아아..
BRUMMB
WHO IS TRAVELING WITH HABAEK TO OUR MONARCH'S PALACE?
I'M SURE IT'S GOING TO BE YOU, SOAH. DON'T YOU THINK SO?
OH, I DON'T CARE.
WHAT?! "DON'T CARE"...?
HEY! LET'S JUST STRAIGHT UP ASK HABAEK ABOUT IT. COME ON!
YOHEE! WAIT... I...

WSHAAA
AH! THERE HE IS.
HABAEK!
YOHEE... SOAH...
WHAT MADE YOU TWO COME ALL THE WAY OUT HERE?
.....
FWIP
SPLISH
FWOOO


HABAEK.
MY NECKLACE FELL INTO THE WATER. WILL YOU PLEASE GET IT OUT FOR ME?
?!


HOW DARE YOU ASK HABAEK TO DO SOMETHING LIKE THAT?!

...OKAY...

HABAEK!
DON'T DO ANY-THING SO STUPID LIKE THAT FOR HER!

HWSH
SPSHAAA

NO.
I WANT YOU TO GET IT FOR ME *WITHOUT* USING YOUR POWERS.
!!
YOU! I CAN'T STAND YOU ANYMORE!!
CALM DOWN, YOHEE. JUST STAY BACK.
BUT *HABAEK*...
KNEEL
SPLOOSH

HABAEK...
...WHY DO YOU HAVE TO DO THAT...?
EVEN THOUGH SHE LOOKS A LOT LIKE NAKBIN... WHY DO YOU HAVE TO...
SPSH SPSH

I CAN'T UNDERSTAND HABAEK!

WHY IS HE UNDER HER THUMB LIKE THAT?

CALM DOWN, YOHEE. I'M OKAY.

BUT...

...NO MATTER WHAT YOU SAY, I HATE TO SEE THAT KIND OF WOMAN BECOME HABAEK'S BRIDE!

I'M ON YOUR SIDE, SOAH. I AM!

THANKS, YOHEE.

GOOD NIGHT, SOAH.

'NIGHT.

SORRY, YOHEE...
...I ALREADY CHOSE MUI.
IF HABAEK CHOSE THAT NEW WOMAN, IT'LL MAKE ME FEEL BETTER.

후욱
HOO!
.....
BUT...
...WHY DO I FEEL SO EMPTY-HEARTED...

...EVEN THOUGH I LIKE MUI OVER HABAEK...?

FWSH
KRAKKA
KOOM
FMMP
!!
HRMPHH!!
WHO IS THIS?!

SKRRITCH
HRAAAH!
WOOSH
BTAMM

WHO WAS THAT?
휘익
HWIK
!!
AND WHAT WAS HE TRYING TO DO TO ME?
SNNCH

KYAAA!! GET OFF!!
쿠르르
KRAKOOM
NO! PLEASE! DON'T!

LADY SOAH! CALM DOWN. IT'S ME.
TAE... TAE-EUL-JIN-IN-NIM...
WHAT'S GOING ON?
SOMEONE... TRIED TO KIDNAP ME.
I MANAGED TO GET AWAY. I COULDN'T SEE HIS FACE, BUT...I SCRATCHED...

THE PERSON'S HAND...
I SCRATCHED IT...
쿠릉...
KOOOM
.....
쿠르르...
KRAKOOM

KRAKKA KOOM
HUH?
WHAT'S WRONG, LADY SOAH?
KZZZAAKK
?!

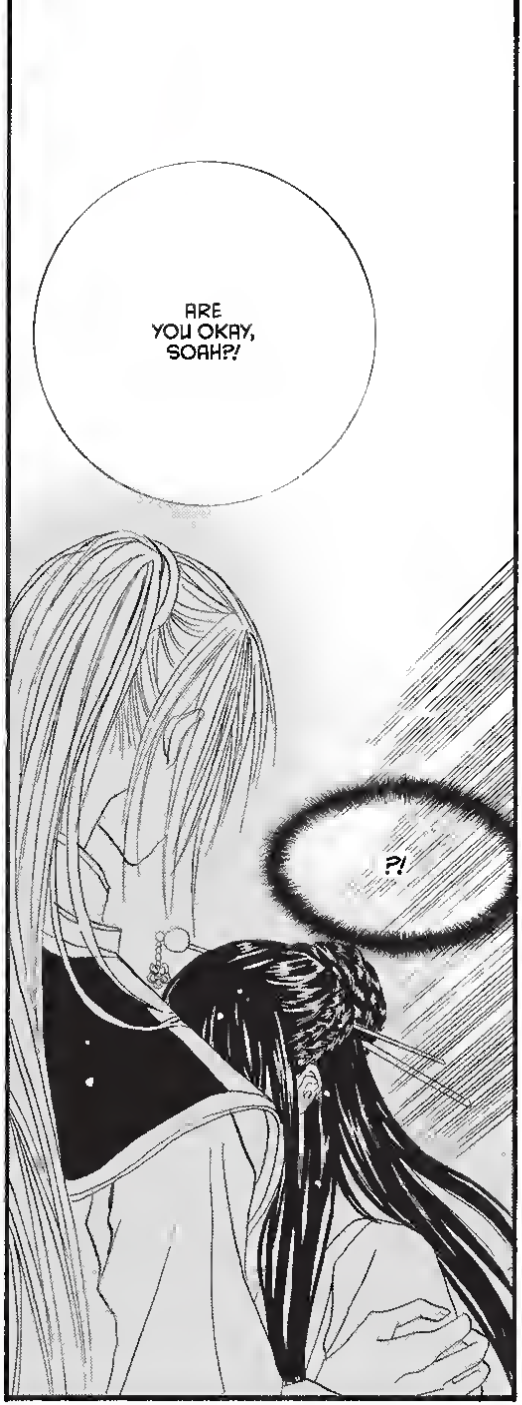
KRAKKA KOOM
LADY SOAH?

DOES THIS MEAN THAT THE PERSON BEFORE WAS...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT?
HNN?! YES. I'M...OKAY.
!
파악
SNNCH
OH, NO! YOU'RE SHIVERING.
ARE YOU COLD? OR...
...DID YOU SEE SOMETHING SCARY?
SOME-BODY... PLEASE HELP ME...

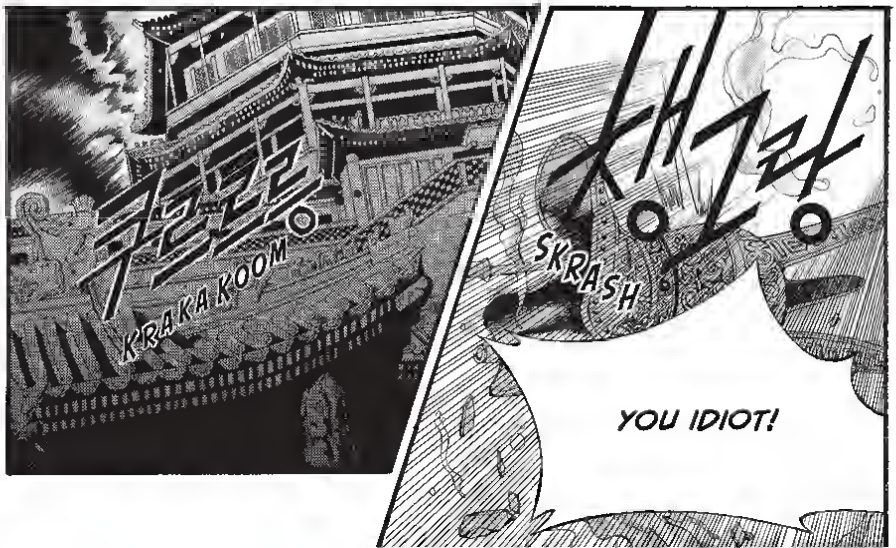
OH, IT'S YOU, GENERAL HUYE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE, GENERAL? AT SUCH AN HOUR?
YOU!!
AH... I WONDER WHO IT IS?
.....
PLEASE RELEASE HER HAND FIRST-- THEN WE TALK.

OH, MY! WHAT CONFUSION!
HWWIK
I FOUND LADY SOAH FREAKING OUT AND RUNNING AROUND, SO I WAS WORRIED. WE WERE TALKING, THAT'S ALL.
HMPH! WELL, I GUESS *YOU'D* BETTER BE CAREFUL.
BECAUSE I SEE THE FACE OF A MAN WHO'S WORRIED ABOUT THE WOMAN HE'S *IN LOVE WITH.*

저벅
TOKK
저벅
TOKK
저벅
TOKK


ARE YOU OKAY, SOAH?!
?!

NOW I DON'T KNOW WHO TO BELIEVE.


KRAKA KOOM
SKRASH
YOU IDIOT!

FMP
WELL, WELL. CALM DOWN, M'LADY.
I DIDN'T EXPECT HER TO RESIST THAT HARD. IT CAUGHT ME OFF GUARD FOR A SECOND.
WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR YOU TO BRING THAT SMALL GIRL TO ME?
AND WHEN I FOLLOWED HER, THAT GUY SUDDENLY APPEARED...
ARE YOU ALL RIGHT, LADY SOAH?

TAE-EUL-JIN-IN. WHY DID HE COME TO THE PALACE AND BOTHER US?
MAYBE... HE KNOWS SOMETHING?
COULD BE. I DON'T KNOW.
ANYWAY, IS IT IMPOSSIBLE FOR YOU TO CATCH HER YOURSELF?
SHUT UP! I'M JUST TRYING TO MAKE THINGS CLEAR.
HOW DARE YOU SAY SOMETHING LIKE THAT TO ME! DO YOU KNOW WHO I AM? I'M HABAEK'S *TRUE* BRIDE.
YOU! YOU GOT YOUR SECRET DUTY FROM THE MONARCH TO CATCH THAT LITTLE GIRL-- AND YOU FAILED! DON'T YOU DARE TO SAY ANYTHING TO ME!
I DON'T WANT TO SEE YOU! GET OUT-- NOW!!
HMPF! STUPID BITCH.

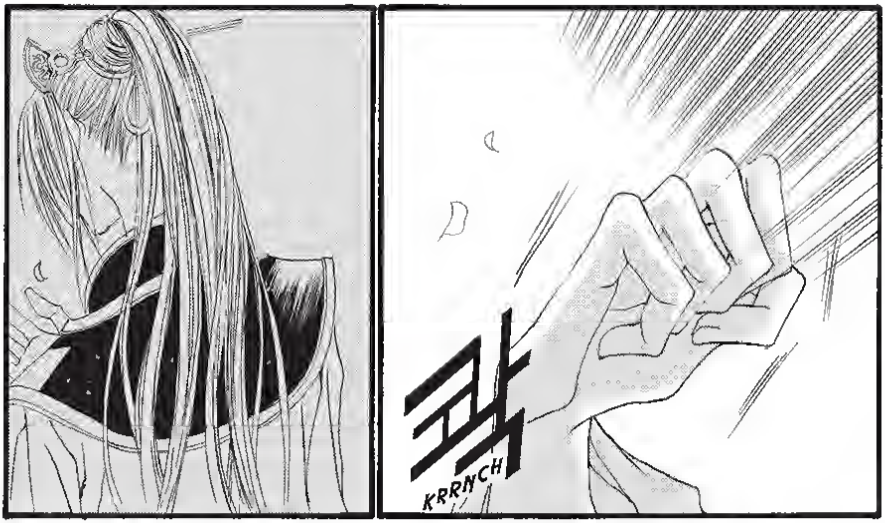
FWOOSH
IT'S A SHAME YOU BELIEVE THAT THIS AWE-INSPIRING BAN-WANG WOULD TAKE AN ORDER FROM SOMEONE LIKE YOU.
KRI-KREEE
I UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE UPSET, BUT YOU'D BETTER BE CAREFUL. YOUR FACE RIGHT NOW...? IT'S SIMPLY TOO UGLY TO BELONG TO HABAEK'S BRIDE.
?!
FWUPP FWUPPA

UGLY, AM I?
NO--! YOU'RE WRONG!!
KTASSH
I AM NAKBIN!
I AM HABAEK'S BRIDE!

THAT GIRL...
IF THAT GIRL WERE
TO VANISH...!!
WHAT
HAPPENED OVER
THERE?
THANK YOU
FOR ESCORTING
ME, HUYE.

WHAT HAPPENED THERE...?
I CAN'T TELL HUYE WHAT JUST HAPPENED...
I CAN'T ASSUME THAT IT WAS TAE-EUL-JIN-IN SIMPLY BECAUSE HIS HAND WAS WOUNDED...
SOAH? ARE YOU SURE YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT?
I DON'T WANT TO BOTHER HUYE ANYMORE.

YES. IT WAS REALLY NOTHING.
.....
I WAS JUST SURPRISED BECAUSE TAE-EUL-JIN-IN-NIM APPEARED OUT OF NOWHERE, IN THE DARK.
IT REALLY WAS NOTHING.
YOU'RE SAYING IT WAS NOTHING, SO I'M NOT GOING TO ASK ANYMORE.
GO AHEAD AND GET SOME REST.
WELL... THANK YOU FOR EVERYTHING TODAY. GOOD NIGHT.
KTAK


KRRNCH

I'M ALWAYS JUST A SINGLE STEP LATE...

WHAT ARE *YOU* LOOKING AT?
HMPF!
I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOU'RE UP TO THIS TIME, BUT YOU'D BETTER JUST CUT IT OUT.
RIGHT NOW, HABAEK ALLOWS YOU TO DO WHATEVER YOU WANT, BUT HIS FAVOR WON'T LAST LONG IF YOU PUSH THE LIMITS.

YOU KNOW WHAT, MURA?
YOU HAVEN'T CHANGED AT ALL.
THAT TIME WHEN YOU WERE WATCHING US...? HOW PATHETIC!

SO YOU HAVE NO RIGHT TO COMPLAIN.
DOING NOTHING AND JUST *WAITING AROUND* BECAUSE YOU'RE SCARED YOU'LL BE HATED OR IGNORED...? WELL...
...I'D RATHER BE HATED.
HRR!

HWOOSHH
?!
HWWOOOOOO
YOU'RE MAKING THAT FACE AGAIN, MURA.

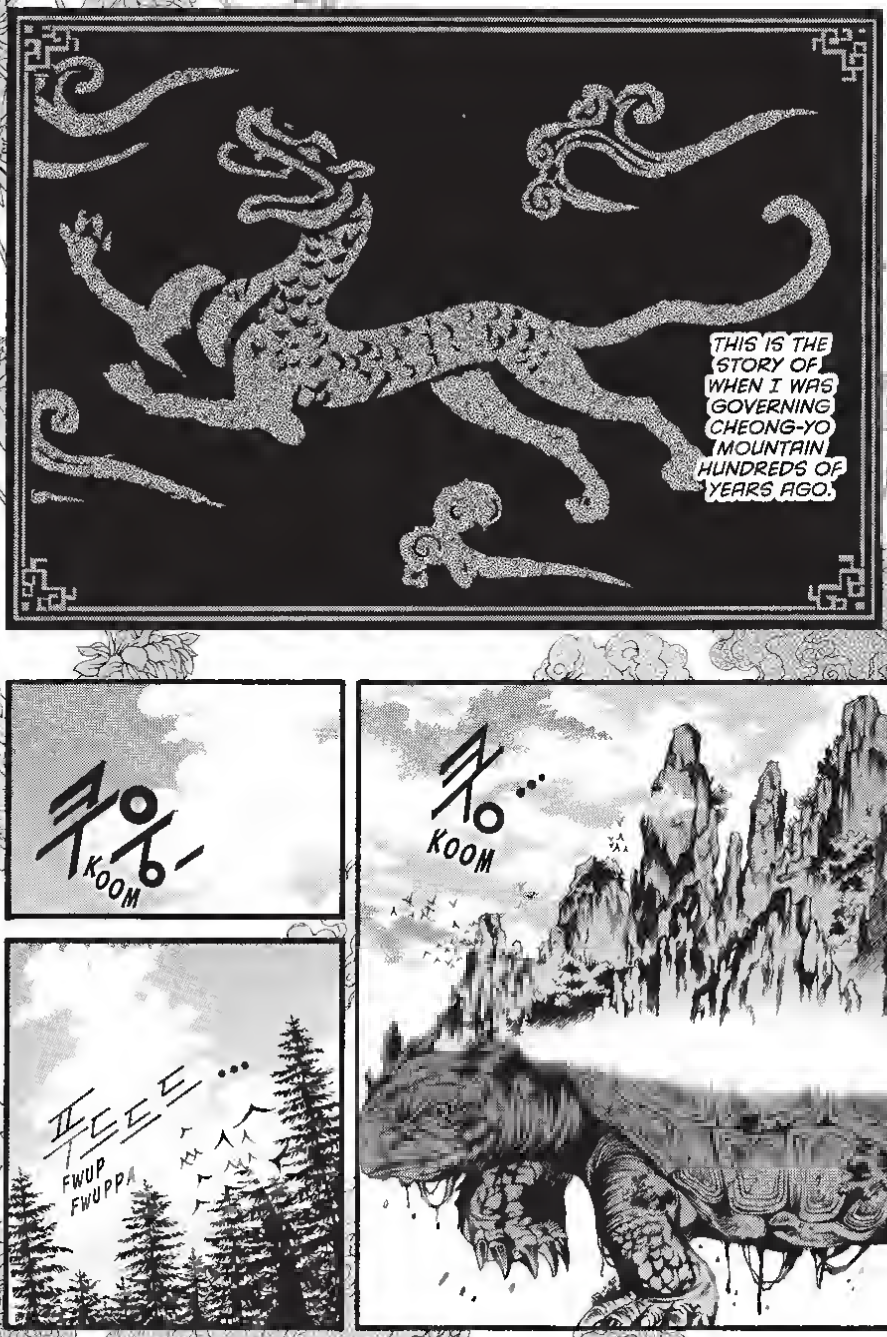
I'VE TOLD YOU-- IT'S QUITE A WASTE TO TWIST FROWNS UPON THAT *BEAUTIFUL* FACE.

AND YOU'RE...

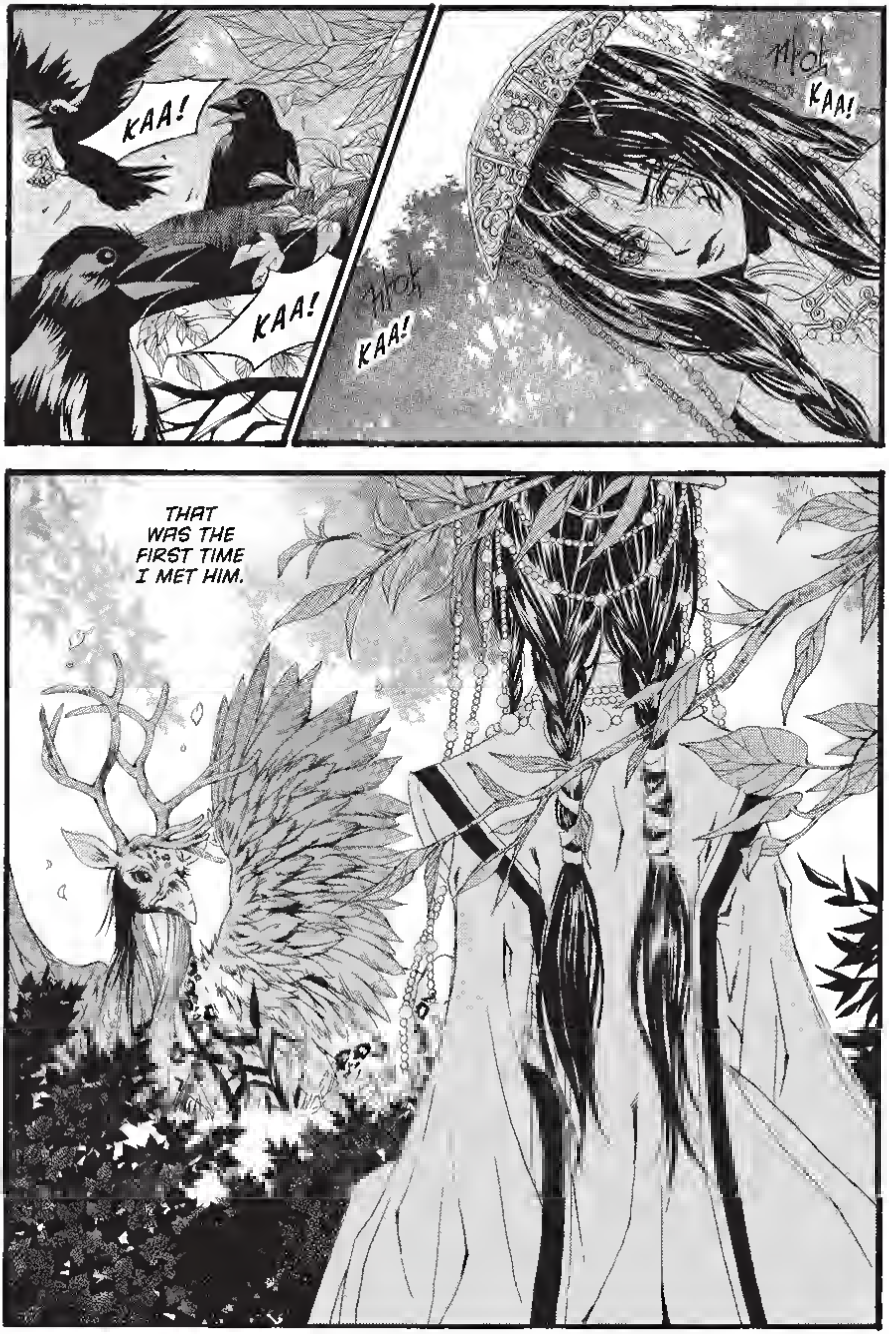
...BIRYEOM?
IT *HAS* BEEN A WHILE SINCE WE SAW EACH OTHER LAST. OH, WHY ARE YOU *SCOWLING?*

WSH
AREN'T YOU HAPPY TO SEE ME?

WHAT THE--?
WHP
WHAT THE HECK ARE YOU DOING TO ME?! YOU IDIOT!!
KAROOOM


THIS IS THE STORY OF WHEN I WAS GOVERNING CHEONG-YO MOUNTAIN HUNDREDS OF YEARS AGO.
KOOM
KOOM
FWUP FWUPP

OUR MONARCH'S CROWS? WHAT ARE THEY DOING HERE?
WHUPPA
WHUPPA
GO AWAY!
WHAT ARE YOU DOING IN MY DOMAIN?
FWUP FWUPPA


KAA!
KAA!
KAA!
KAA!
THAT WAS THE FIRST TIME I MET HIM.

HEY... WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU, MURA? WE HAVEN'T SEEN EACH OTHER IN SO LONG--AND YOU WERE MUCH NICER TO ME BACK THEN.
OF COURSE I WAS NICE TO YOU/ I THOUGHT YOU WERE A POOR WOUNDED ANIMAL AT THE TIME.
I WAS COMPLETELY DECEIVED.

I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU CAME ALL THE WAY HERE. I WANT YOU TO PRETEND THAT YOU DON'T KNOW ME WHEN WE'RE IN FRONT OF HABAEK.
I DON'T KNOW WHAT OUR TIME TOGETHER MEANT FOR *YOU*, BUT IT'S SOMETHING I WANT TO FORGET.
PLEASE GET OUT OF MY SIGHT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
저벅 TOKK
저벅 TOKK
저벅 TOKK
FWISH

EVERYONE CALLED ME A WITCH AND POINTED THEIR FINGERS AT ME, BUT HE WAS THE ONLY ONE WHO CALLED ME A GODDESS.
IT'D BE GREAT IF YOU COULD MEET HIM SOMEDAY.
HIS NAME IS HABAEK.
AND IF YOU FIND HIM IN ANY TROUBLE, PLEASE HELP HIM LIKE I HELPED YOU.

POOR MURA WAS HEART-BROKEN...
...YET STILL... POOR MURA WAS IN LOVE WITH HIM...

DON'T WORRY, MURA.
I JUST CAME HERE TO KEEP A PROMISE.
SOAH.
?!

MUI!!

YOU SURPRISED ME.

WHAT WERE YOU DOING HERE?

WERE YOU... WAITING FOR ME?

YES.
휘익
HWIP

LAST NIGHT... AFTER WHAT HAPPENED, I WAS SO SCARED...
...BUT SURPRISINGLY, WHEN I SEE MUI'S FACE, ALL OF MY WORRIES SEEM TO GO AWAY.
THINGS LIKE THE INVADER FROM LAST NIGHT...MY SORROWS AND MY FEELINGS FOR HABAEK...THE INVITATION FROM THE MONARCH... MY INSECURITIES ABOUT THE FUTURE...

SOAH.
AH...YES?
PLEASE PROMISE ME *ONE THING.*

WHAT?
FROM NOW ON, NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU WILL TRUST ME.
ISN'T IT TOO LATE FOR THAT?

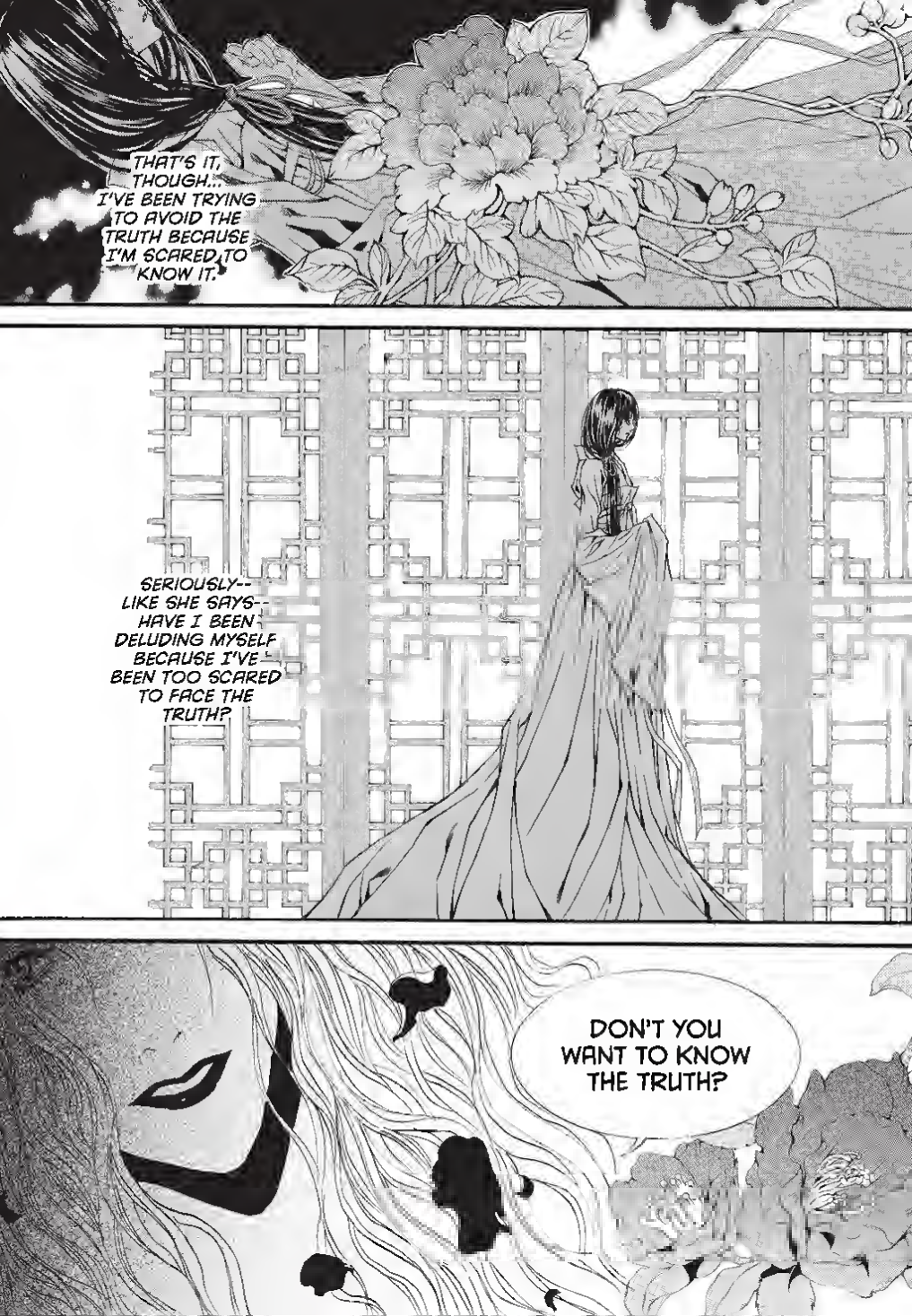
LOOK... I DON'T THINK THIS IS A GOOD TIME TO BE SEEN WITH *ME*, YOUR COUSIN'S WIFE...
YOU ARE...
WMMP
...ARE...

IS THERE A REASON WHY WE ONLY MEET AT NIGHT?
?!

WHAT IS SHE TALKING ABOUT?- "ONLY MEET AT NIGHT"...?
HMPF! AND *YOU*... ARE YOU STUPID? OR MAYBE YOU'RE *PRETENDING* THAT YOU'RE STUPID?

THAT MUST BE IT--YOU'VE BEEN PRETENDING TO KNOW NOTHING, AND ALL THE WHILE YOU UNDERSTAND *EVERYTHING.*
YOU HAVE THE FACE OF SOMEONE WHO'S INNOCENT, NAIVE, AND CLUELESS...
...BUT ONCE SOMEONE REALLY GETS TO KNOW YOU, YOU TURN OUT TO BE GREEDY AND UNAPPRECIATIVE-- AND YOU WANT TO HAVE *BOTH* HABAEK AND MUI.
BLUSH
!!

NO... THAT'S NOT TRUE...
I DON'T--
HA! SEE? ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY "I DON'T KNOW ANYTHING" ...?
WHAT'S SHE GETTING AT? I KNOW THERE'S SOMETHING STRANGE ABOUT MUI...
...BUT I DON'T KNOW WHAT IT IS. I CAN SENSE THAT THERE'S SOMETHING HE'S HIDING FROM ME.


THAT'S IT, THOUGH... I'VE BEEN TRYING TO AVOID THE TRUTH BECAUSE I'M SCARED TO KNOW IT.
SERIOUSLY-- LIKE SHE SAYS-- HAVE I BEEN DELUDING MYSELF BECAUSE I'VE BEEN TOO SCARED TO FACE THE TRUTH?
DON'T YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH?

WELL, IN FACT--
HA!
HEE HEE! I WAS *KIDDING*-- JUST KIDDING.
OH, NO! DON'T GET *MAD*, MUI. I WAS JUST JOKING AROUND, BUT I GUESS I WASN'T THAT FUNNY AFTER ALL.
WHY DO YOU TWO LOOK SO NERVOUS?
WHAT WERE YOU EXPECTING ME TO SAY?
ㅋㅋㅋ HA HA HA!
YEO-WA!

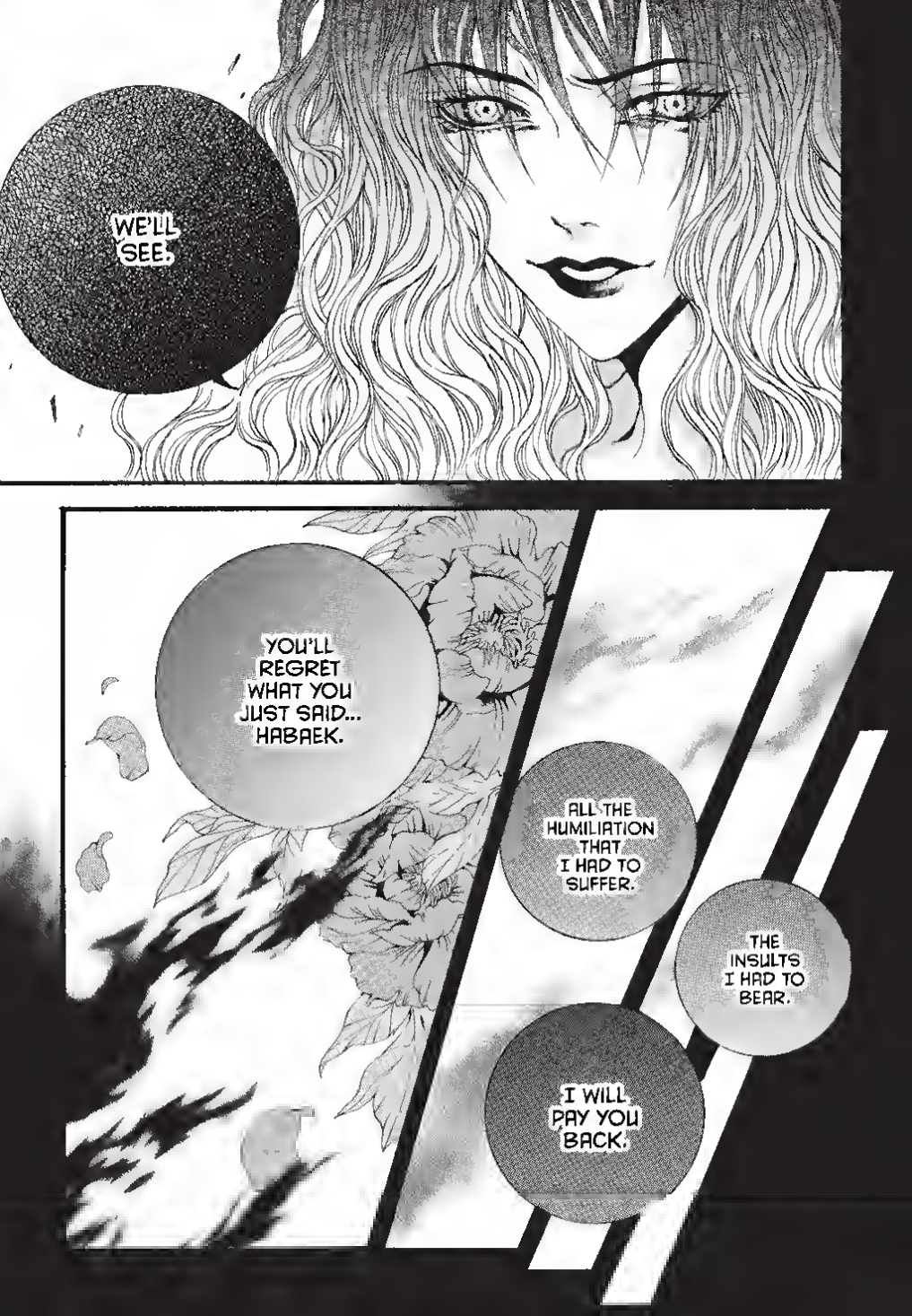
MUI...?
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN DURING THE DAYTIME?
!!
WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN?
PLEASE...
...I WANT TO HEAR THE TRUTH FROM YOU.
MUI...? PLEASE ANSWER.
HE WAS...

...WITH ME.
RIGHT, MUI?
.....
YES.

FWSH
WHOOSH
TOK TOK TOK
WELL... I GUESS SHE'S UPSET BECAUSE OF SOMETHING I SAID. WHAT SHOULD I DO, MUI?
THAP

WHMMP
KYAAA!
YOU'RE HURTING ME!
SHFF
THIS IS THE LAST TIME THAT I WILL LET SOMETHING LIKE *THAT* HAPPEN.
!!
DON'T YOU DARE DO ANYTHING LIKE THAT AGAIN. I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO TO YOU...

LOOK-- IN A FATED SENSE, SHE IS MY UNIVERSE. TRIFLING WITH HER AND COMPLICATING THINGS FURTHER WILL *ANNOY* ME. WHICH WILL ONLY BRING ABOUT MY *WRATH*.
IF YOU CROSS THE LINE, WOMAN, YOU SHALL NOT BE FORGIVEN.
I FORGAVE YOU BEFORE BECAUSE OF MY SYMPATHY AND PITY FOR YOU. NO OTHER REASON.
KTAK
KTAK


WE'LL SEE.
YOU'LL REGRET WHAT YOU JUST SAID... HABAEK.
ALL THE HUMILIATION THAT I HAD TO SUFFER.
THE INSULTS I HAD TO BEAR.
I WILL PAY YOU BACK.

HABAEK.
.....
DID YOU FORGET ALREADY?
I WARNED YOU TO STAY OUT OF MY SIGHT FOR A WHILE.
HABAEK...

I WAS *BAD.* PLEASE FORGIVE ME.
I WAS JEALOUS AND WENT A LITTLE CRAZY BECAUSE YOU ALWAYS TAKE HER SIDE!
I CAN'T GO ANYWHERE... I CAN'T BE WITHOUT YOU.
I WILL NEVER SAY ANYTHING LIKE THAT TO HER EVER AGAIN. PLEASE DON'T HATE ME. I BEG YOU.

WHP
OKAY. I SEE. STAND UP NOW.
HABAEK, DO YOU REMEMBER THE MUSIC I USED TO PLAY FOR YOU? YOU LIKED IT.
YES.

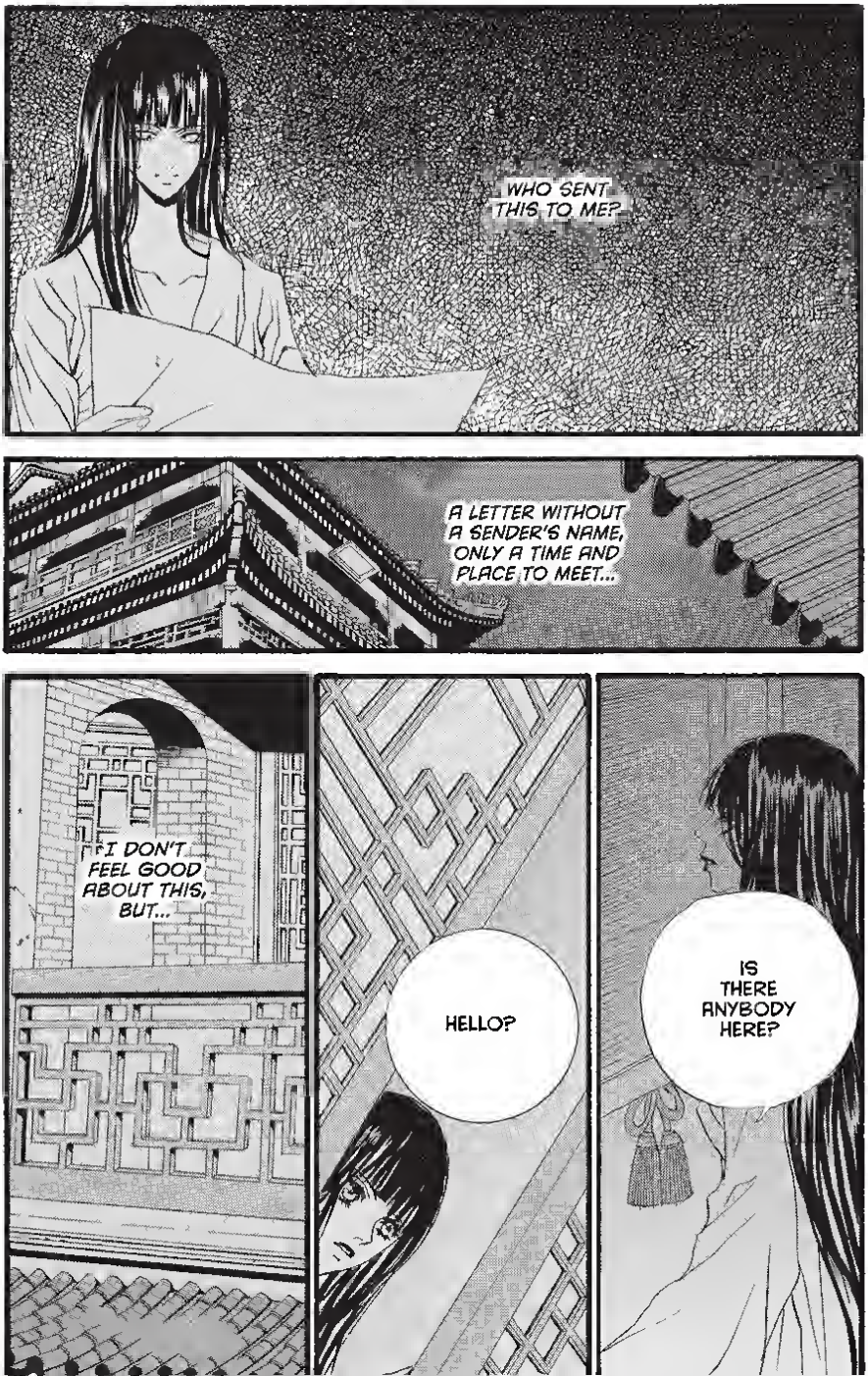
WOBBLE
WSH
WHAT'S WRONG, HABAEK? YOU LOOK PALE.
I GUESS IT'S TRUE THAT YOU GET *WEAKER* DURING THE DAYTIME. IT'S NO FUN AT ALL, IF YOU'RE THIS EASY.

YOU...
WHAT DID
YOU...
털썩
THMMP
스윽
WSH
THERE'S
NOTHING YOU
NEED TO
WORRY ABOUT,
HABAEK.

ONCE YOU WAKE UP FROM A NICE, DEEP SLEEP, EVERYTHING WILL RETURN TO THE WAY IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE.

WELL, IT SEEMS LIKE HE WEAKENS JUST AT THE SIGHT OF YOU, NO MATTER WHAT.
ALTHOUGH WE GOT SOME HELP FROM THE *MEDICINE*, I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT WE COULD GET HIM THIS EASILY.
WEEEN
SO WHAT DO WE DO NOW?
IF HE WAKES UP, YOU'RE NOT GOING TO BE SAFE.
MURA'S HERBS ARE PRETTY GOOD AND STRONG.

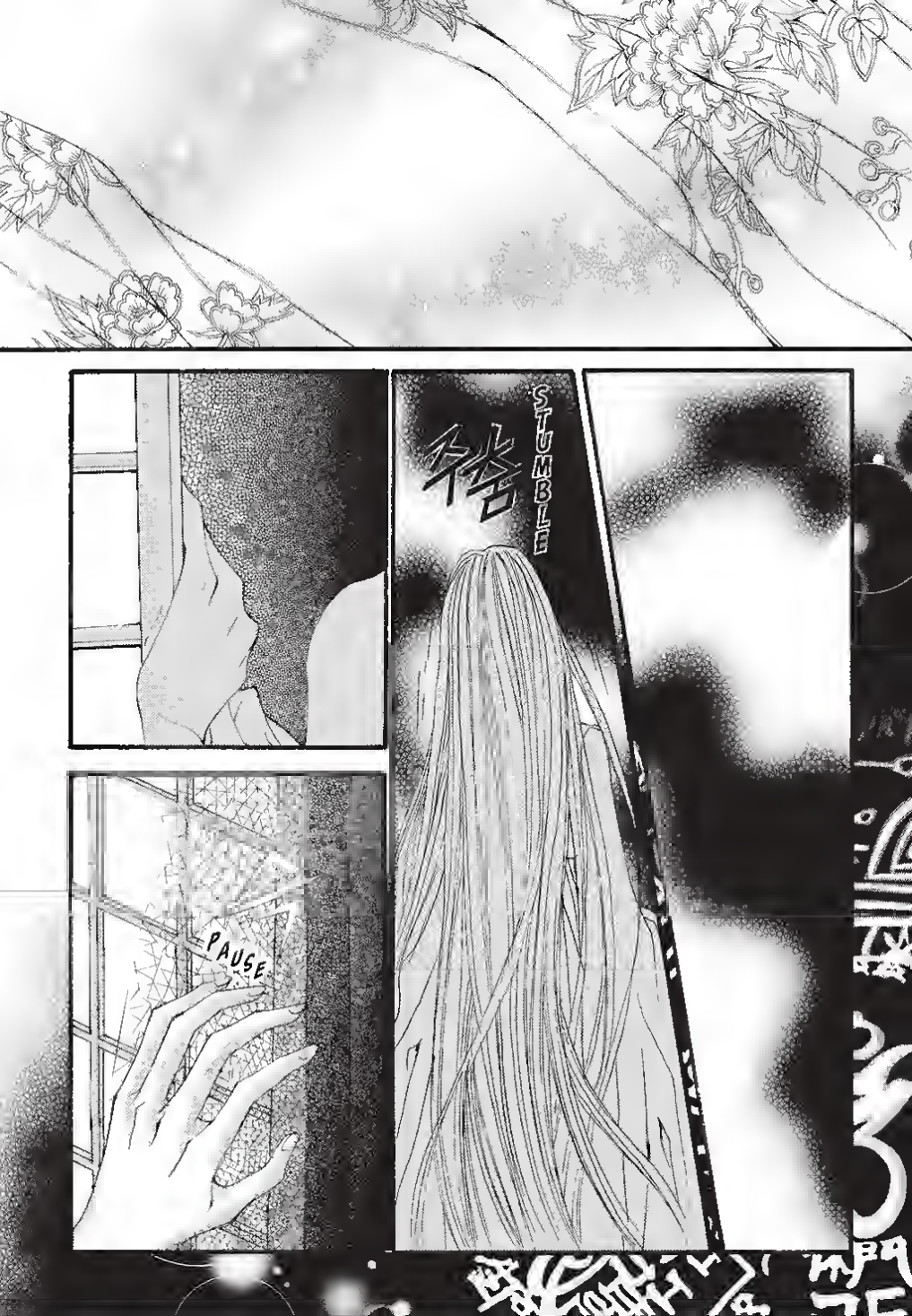
AMONG THEM, THERE'S ONE THAT MAKES THE PERSON WHO TAKES IT FALL IN LOVE WITH THE PERSON THEY FIRST LAY EYES UPON AFTER IMBIBING THE HERB.
WHAT I'M DOING RIGHT NOW IS A LITTLE EXPERIMENT WITH THE HERB'S EFFECTS.

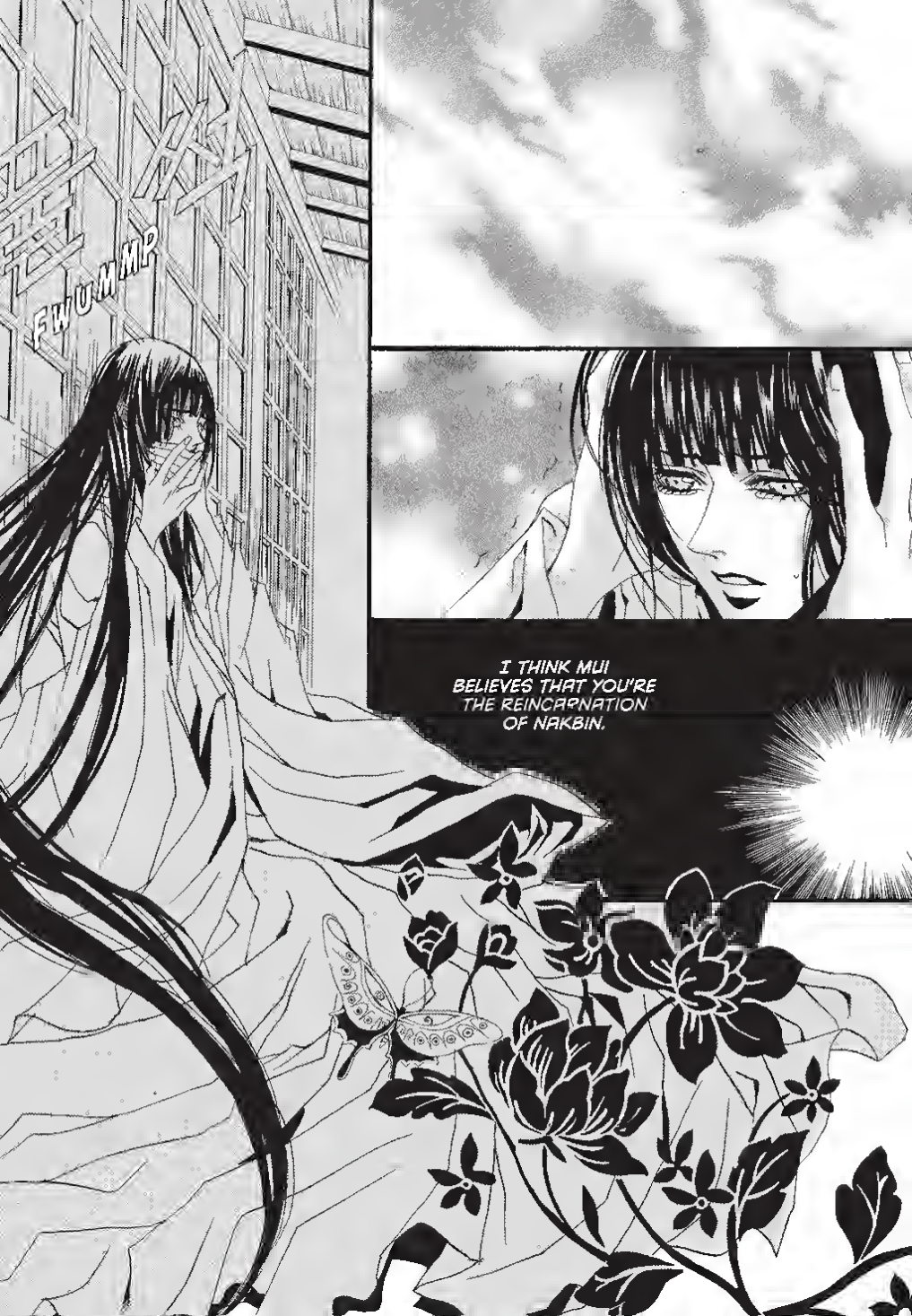

WHO SENT THIS TO ME?
A LETTER WITHOUT A SENDER'S NAME, ONLY A TIME AND PLACE TO MEET...
I DON'T FEEL GOOD ABOUT THIS, BUT...
HELLO?
IS THERE ANYBODY HERE?

FWSH
AH...
!!

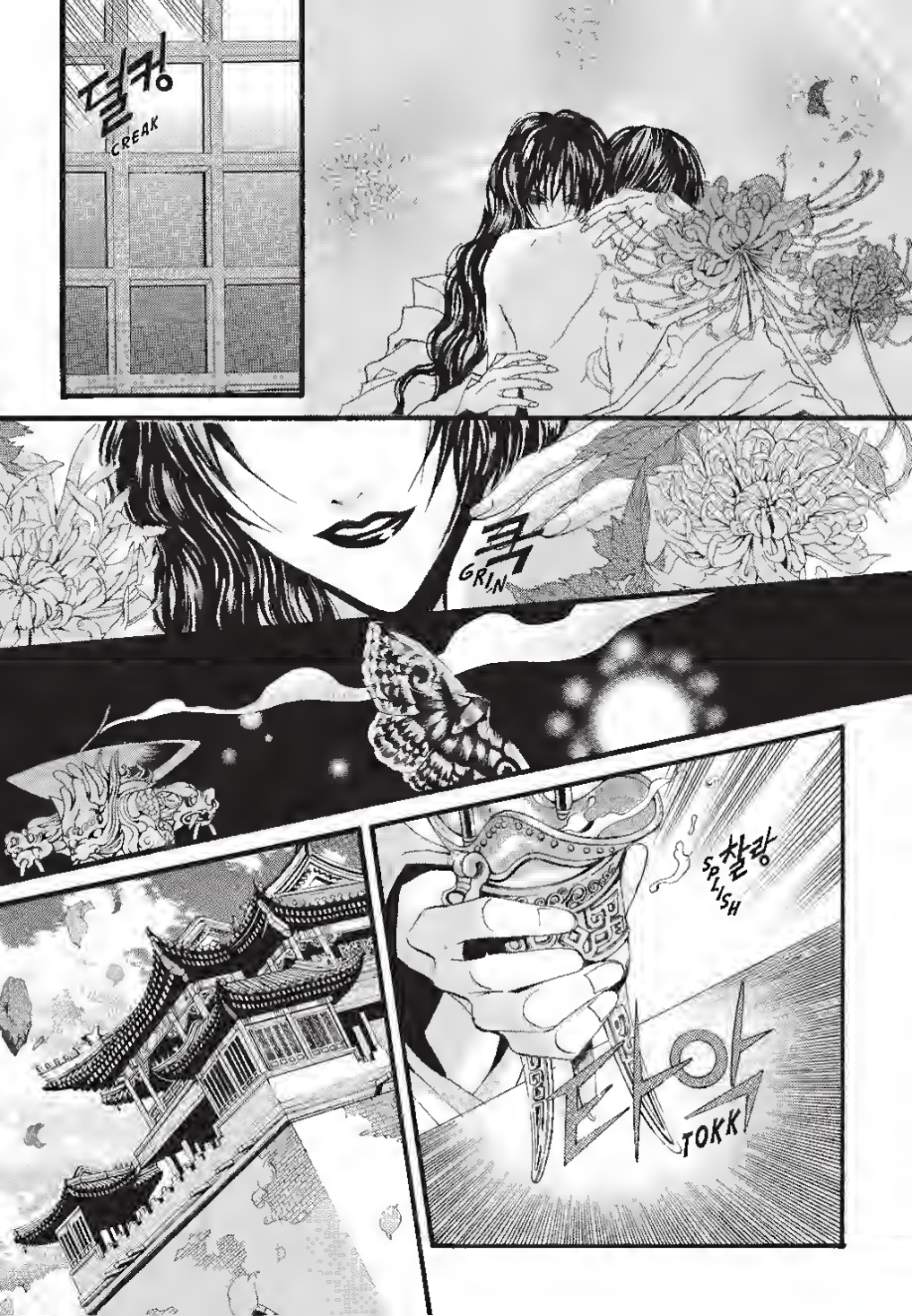
MY NAME IS MUI.
I WANT TO MAKE A FORMAL PROPOSAL OF MARRIAGE.

WILL YOU MARRY ME? PLEASE BE MY WIFE, SOAH.


STUMBLE
휘청
PAUSE

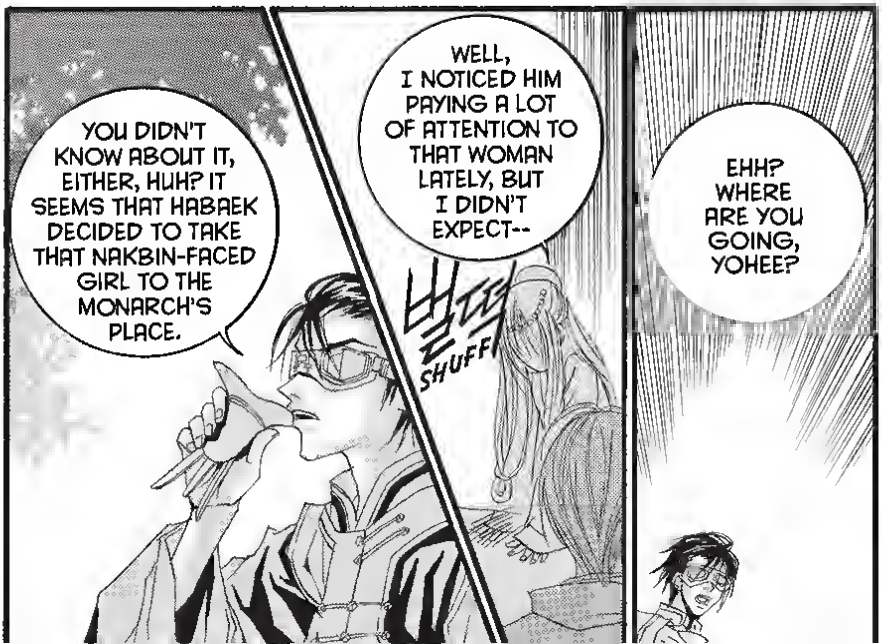

SWOMP
I THINK MUI BELIEVES THAT YOU'RE THE REINCARNATION OF NAKBIN.

WAS I REALLY JUST A REPLACEMENT BRIDE?
PLEASE RESCUE HER.
I BEG YOU.
IF I KNEW THIS WOULD HAPPEN, I WOULD HAVE NEVER ASKED FOR THAT...
SUGUK DOESN'T NEED TWO BRIDES HERE.
I SHOULD HAVE IGNORED HER, EVEN THOUGH PEOPLE WOULD'VE CALLED ME SELFISH.

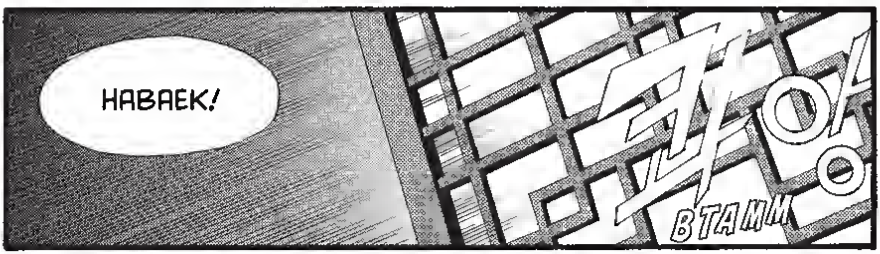

덜컹
CREAK
크
GRIN
찰랑
SPLISH
탁
TOKK

I THOUGHT SOAH WAS THE ONE WHO WAS GOING TO OUR MONARCH'S PALACE? WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN TO *HER?*

WHAT?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?


YOU DIDN'T KNOW ABOUT IT, EITHER, HUH? IT SEEMS THAT HABAEK DECIDED TO TAKE THAT NAKBIN-FACED GIRL TO THE MONARCH'S PLACE.
WELL, I NOTICED HIM PAYING A LOT OF ATTENTION TO THAT WOMAN LATELY, BUT I DIDN'T EXPECT--
SHUFF!
EHH? WHERE ARE YOU GOING, YOHEE?

HABAEK!!

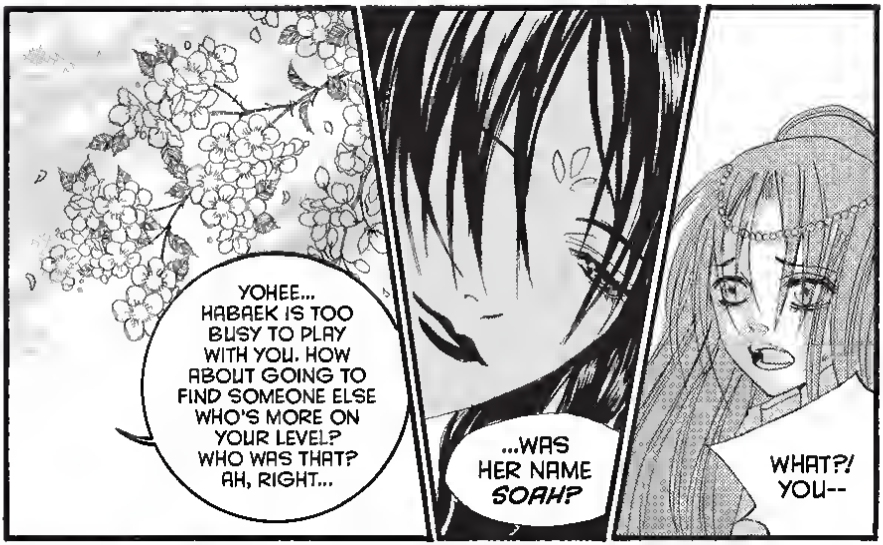

HABAEK!
BTAMM

HABAEK! WHAT'S GOING ON HERE?
YOHEE...

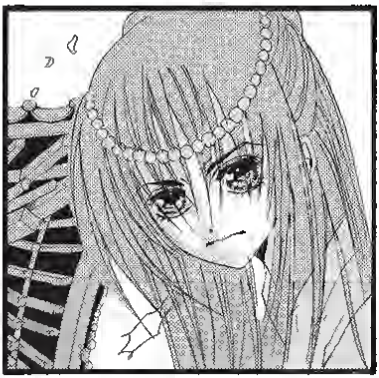
IS IT TRUE THAT YOU'VE MADE A DECISION ON WHO YOU'RE TAKING TO SEE THE MONARCH?
WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?
NAKBIN IS MY WIFE, SO OF COURSE I WILL TAKE HER WITH ME.
DID YOU JUST SAY "NAKBIN"...? WHAT...ARE YOU...TALKING ABOUT?

HABAEK--
WAKE
UP!!
SOAH'S
YOUR
WIFE!
SOAH?
WHO'S
THAT?
?

WHAT'S GOING ON, HABAEK?


YOHEE... HABAEK IS TOO BUSY TO PLAY WITH YOU. HOW ABOUT GOING TO FIND SOMEONE ELSE WHO'S MORE ON YOUR LEVEL? WHO WAS THAT? AH, RIGHT...
...WAS HER NAME SOAH?
WHAT?! YOU--

YOHEE. WHAT'S WRONG WITH YOU?



FINE, HABAEK! DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!
AND I WON'T CARE IF YOU REGRET THIS LATER!!
흐잉
HWIK

YOHEE...?
DON'T WORRY, HABAEK.
WHY IS SHE SO MAD AT ME?
I'M SURE THAT SHE GOT BORED AND IS EAGER TO PLAY WITH YOU...OR SOMETHING.

WHO IS THIS "SOAH" ...?
I'VE NEVER HEARD THAT NAME BEFORE...
IT DRIVES ME CRAZY!!
MUI AND HABAEK ARE THE *SAME!* BOTH OF THEM ARE SO DAZZLED BY THAT WOMAN-- AND THEY DON'T KNOW WHAT'S RIGHT!

...PROMISE ME ONE THING... NO MATTER WHAT HAPPENS, YOU WILL TRUST ME...
MUI... MUST BE *DIFFERENT.* I'LL TRUST MUI.
FWSH
I WON'T TRUST ANYTHING, UNTIL I HEAR DIRECTLY FROM MUI.
SOAH...

THAT STRANGE LETTER...
...AND WHAT HAPPENED THE OTHER NIGHT... THERE MUST BE A REASON...
MUI!
.....
I KNEW THAT I'D FIND YOU IF I CAME HERE.

YOU ASKED ME TO TRUST YOU-- NO MATTER WHAT.
YOU'RE ALWAYS LIKE THAT...GIVING NO REASON AND NO EXPLANATION. YOU JUST COMMAND ME TO DO SOMETHING AND THEN GET MAD AT ME.
YOU'RE SELFISH AND INCORRIGIBLE, AND YOU REGARD HUMANS AS WORTHLESS CREATURES.
AND YOU WON'T SEE ANYBODY BUT NAKBIN.
BUT...
YOU ARE A STUPID GOD.

...I LIKE YOU... DESPITE ALL THAT.
I LIKE YOU SO MUCH...I DON'T MIND IF I'M A REPLACEMENT FOR NAKBIN.

FAPP
!!
WHAT THE HELL ARE YOU DOING?!

BELATED CHRISTMAS SPECIAL!
☆Mi-Gaeng's*☆ Closing Diary
THE NIGHTMARE ON CHRISTMAS DAY
EEYIIEEE!!
WHAT'S WRONG?!
WHAT'S GOING ON?
벌떡 JUMP
I HAD A DREAM! I WAS DRAWING AND DRAWING... EVEN IN MY DREAM!
SPAINTE SPAINTE
OH, COME ON! I WAS ACTUALLY WORRIED FOR A SECOND!
CALM DOWN! YOU WOKE UP. IT'S ALL RIGHT NOW.
흐윽..
NOOO! I HAD SO MUCH MORE WORK DONE IN MY DREAM! AAAH!

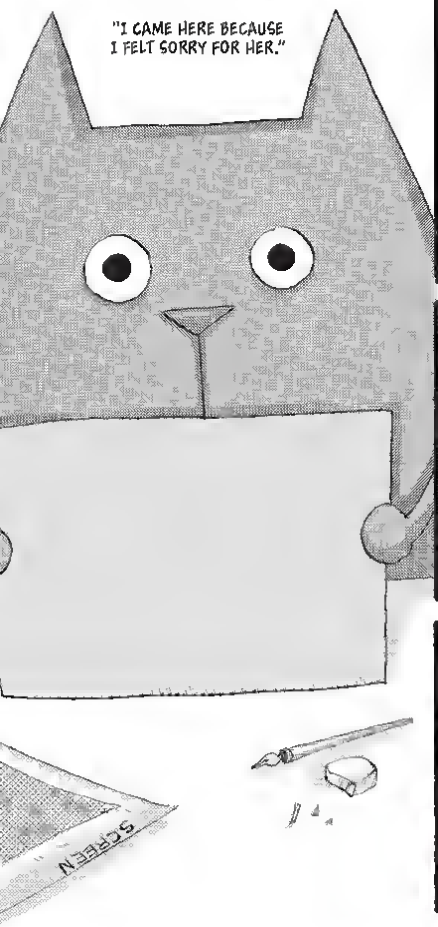
*"MI-GAENG" IS MI-KYUNG YUN'S NICKNAME

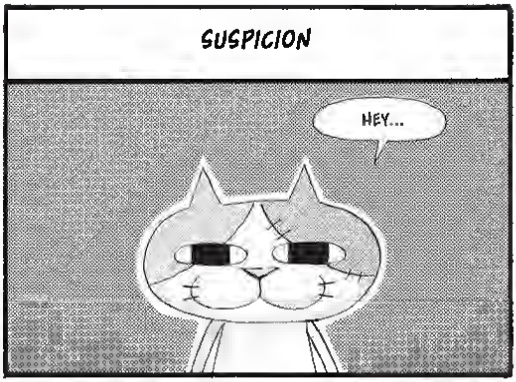
CHRISTMAS DEADLINE
JINGLE BELLS! JINGLE BELLS!
IT APPEARS THAT WE'LL BE SEEING A VERY COLD CHRISTMAS THIS YEAR...
I HOPE THAT IT RAINS ON CHRISTMAS DAY.
= YEAH, FOR THOSE STUPID LOVEY-DOVEY COUPLES
BWAAH HA HA! RIGHT! AND THAT LIGHTNING POURS FORTH FROM THE SKY TO FRY ALL OF THEM IN THEIR TRACKS!!
.....
WHAT? WHAT'D I SAY?

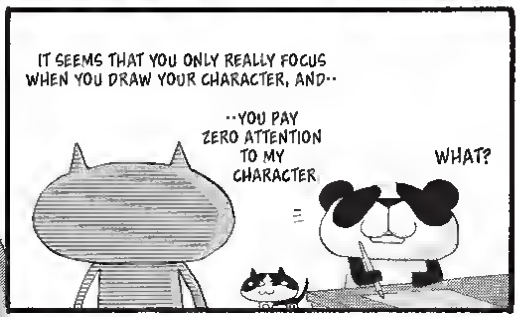
☆ Mi-Gaeng's ☆ Closing Diary

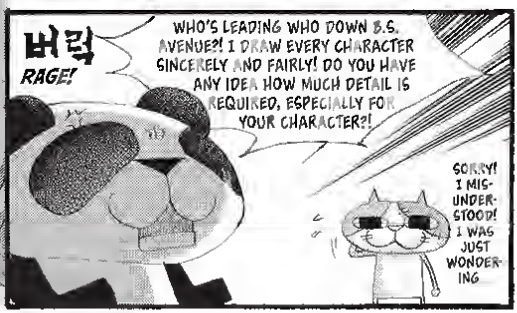
THIS IS MY BROTHER, "J," WHO WAS SCOUTED AS DEADLINES APPROACHED TO HELP WITH HIS SISTER'S WORK.

"I CAME HERE BECAUSE I FELT SORRY FOR HER."

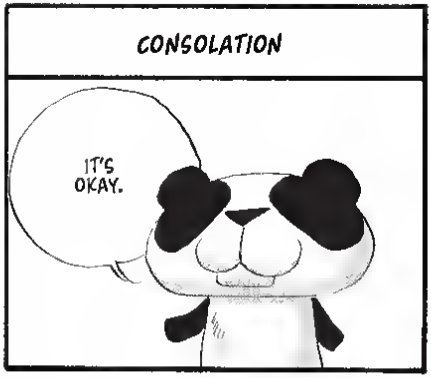


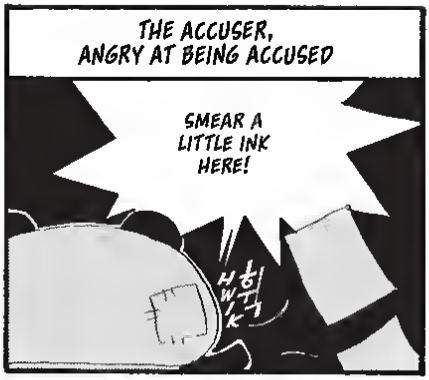


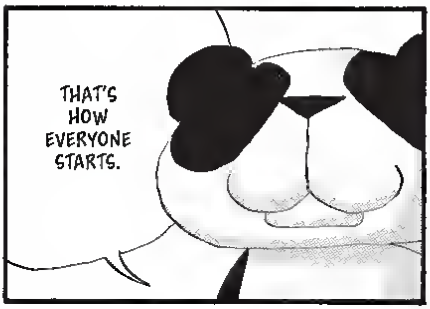


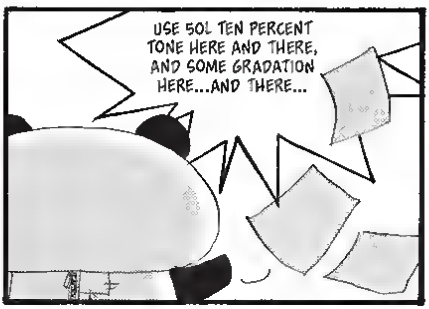

버럭
RAGE!
WHO'S LEADING WHO DOWN B.S. AVENUE?! I DRAW EVERY CHARACTER SINCERELY AND FAIRLY! DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW MUCH DETAIL IS REQUIRED, ESPECIALLY FOR YOUR CHARACTER?!
SORRY! I MIS-UNDER-STOOD! I WAS JUST WONDER-ING

SOMETHING'S STILL NOT RIGHT HERE...

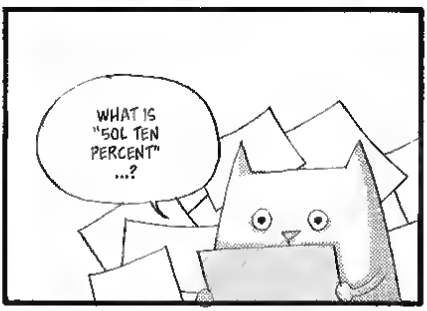

CONSOLATION
IT'S OKAY.

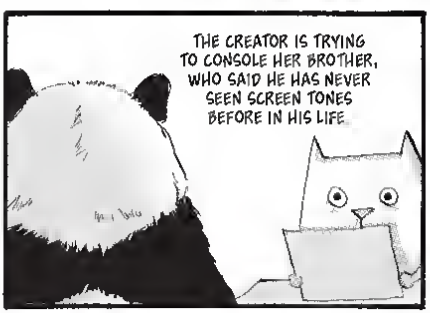

THE ACCUSER, ANGRY AT BEING ACCUSED
SMEAR A LITTLE INK HERE!
HWIK

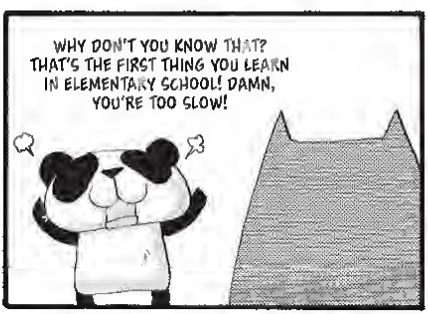

THAT'S HOW EVERYONE STARTS.


USE 50L TEN PERCENT TONE HERE AND THERE, AND SOME GRADATION HERE...AND THERE...

IT'S HARD TO START SOMETHING, BUT ONCE YOU DO, YOU'LL GET USED TO THE WORK QUICKLY. BEFORE YOU KNOW IT-- YOU'RE A PROFESSIONAL!


WHAT IS "50L TEN PERCENT" ...?

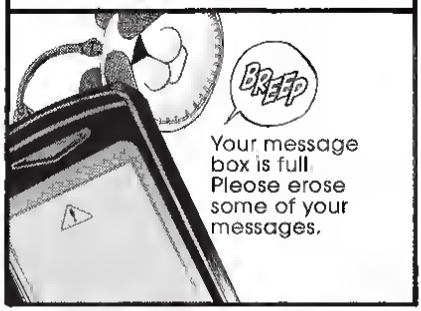

THE CREATOR IS TRYING TO CONSOLE HER BROTHER, WHO SAID HE HAS NEVER SEEN SCREEN TONES BEFORE IN HIS LIFE.


WHY DON'T YOU KNOW THAT? THAT'S THE FIRST THING YOU LEARN IN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL! DAMN, YOU'RE TOO SLOW!

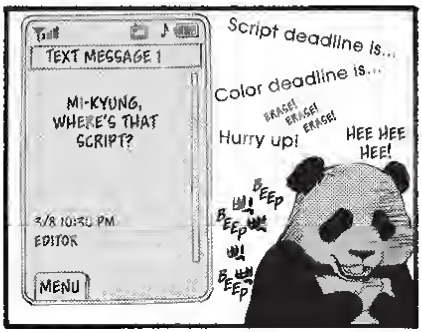
BECOME-A-CARTOONIST CHALLENGE

SOMETIMES I NOTICE THE CARTOONS AT SOME BECOME-A-CARTOONIST CHALLENGE AT A RANDOM PORTAL SITE. IT'S AMATEUR WORK, BUT SOME OF THE ARTISTS ARE AS GOOD AS PROFESSIONALS. LOOKING AT SOME OF THE WORK MAKES ME FEEL LIKE I'VE DISCOVERED A PEARL IN THE MUD.

TEXT MESSAGE



OUR HEROINE IS HALF JAPANESE AND HALF KOREAN, HAS DIFFERENT-COLORED HAIR AND EYES FROM THOSE AROUND HER, AND IS SUBJECTED TO INTENSE DISCRIMINATION.

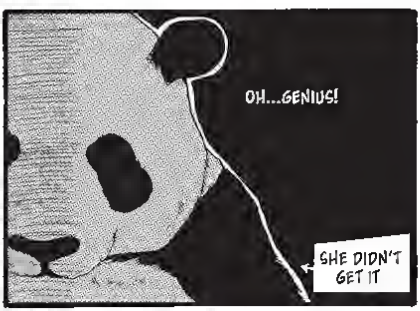


FORTY COMMENTS

NIKE: LOLOLOL! FIRST! LOLWUT!

HABAEK: WHY WOULD A HALF JAPANESE AND HALF KOREAN GIRL HAVE DIFFERENT COLORED EYES THAN ANY OTHER JAPANESE OR KOREAN PERSON?

SOAH: WAS MOVED TO TEARS-- THIS WAS SO SAD :(



~The End~

This is my sixth volume. Before I knew it, I realized that I'd created twice as many volumes of *Bride of the Water God* as my previous series. However, since I'm still far from perfection and so clumsy, I'm making my editors' work harder all the time. Will my skills improve by the time I've finished this series? Anyway, I'd like to thank everyone who's been reading and everyone who bought this volume.

—Mi-Kyung Yun

CREATOR PROFILE

Born on October 14, 1980. Majored in Animation at Mokwon University.

Received the silver medal for Seoul Media Group's "Shin-in-gong-mo-jeon" ("New Artist Debut Competition") for *Na-eu Ji-gu Bang-moon-gi* (*The Journey of My Earth Visit*) in 2003.

Received a "Shin-in-sang" ("Best New Artist") award from the Dokja-manhwa-daesang organization for *Railroad* in 2004.

Currently publishing *Bride of the Water God* serially in the Korean comics magazine *Wink*.

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윤미경

Mi-Kyung Yun

6

BRIDE of the WATER GOD

Soah was willing to sacrifice her life to Habaek, the powerful and feared water god, to save her drought-stricken village on Earth. However, she was happily surprised to be rescued from the sea and taken to the magical kingdom of Suguk, instead of killed! After a strange marriage to Soah, Habaek yearns to treat her as a proper husband would—but he's cursed to live in the form of a little boy during the day, only reverting to his true adult self at night! Trying to keep this secret from his human bride, he hides behind the fake identity of "Mui" when darkness falls and competes with other unusual gods for her attention. Pursued by an unknown, shape-shifting tormentor, Habaek is also led to believe that his previous human bride is still alive.

Writer/artist Mi-Kyung Yun's *Bride of the Water God*—filled with romance and intricate, breathtaking illustrations—is a best-selling series in Korea and received the Best New Artist award in 2004 from the esteemed Dokja-manhwa-daesang organization. *Bride of the Water God* has also begun as a television series in Korea!

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